

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1. A method of assigning and reporting a plurality of preventive maintenance workorders, a workorder including equipment data, scheduling data, and a checksheet associated with a required maintenance procedure, the method comprising:
  - storing a plurality of preventative maintenance workorders in a database;
  - assigning at least one workorder to at least one person;
  - reporting maintenance data on the checksheet by the assigned at least one person;
  - storing the checksheet including maintenance data in the database;
  - automatically identifying maintenance data exceeding an out of specification tolerance from the maintenance data reported on the checksheet; and
  - automatically notifying responsible personnel of the maintenance data exceeding the out of specification tolerance.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of identifying the out of specification tolerance includes identifying a level of criticality of the maintenance data exceeding the out of specification tolerance and identifying the responsible personnel based on the level of criticality.
3. The method according to claim 2, further comprising downloading the checksheet to a handheld wireless interface for reporting the maintenance data on the downloaded checksheet and subsequently uploading and storing maintenance data to the database.
4. The method according to claim 3, further comprising prohibiting access to the checksheet in the database until after the step of storing the maintenance data on the checksheet to the database.
5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising selectively limiting access to the workorders in the database to designated personnel, the designated personnel being identified by a login identification code.

6. The method according to claim 5, further comprising providing a plurality of electronic mailboxes, each mailbox corresponding to a login identification code; and

automatically routing the workorder to the electronic mailbox of a designated supervisor for assigning to the at least one person prior to a predetermined due date.

7. The method according to claim 6, further comprising automatically routing the assigned workorder to the electronic mailbox of the assigned person.

8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising automatically routing the workorder to the electronic mailbox of the supervisor upon completion of the checksheet.

9. The method according to claim 8, further comprising automatically rescheduling a periodically recurring workorder to a due date according to a predefined periodicity upon completion of the workorder.

10. The method according to claim 5, further comprising: releasing the assigned workorder; selectively limiting access to the workorder to the supervisor prior to release; and selectively limiting access to the workorder to the supervisor and the assigned person after release.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein assigning comprises assigning a workorder to a group and permitting selection of the workorder by a member of the group, wherein the reporting and storing steps are performed by the member of the group selecting the workorder, and the method further comprising selectively limiting access to the workorder to the supervisor and the one person.

12. A method of storing a preventative maintenance workorder in a database, a workorder including equipment data, scheduling data, and a checksheet associated with a required maintenance procedure, the method comprising:

receiving the equipment data and the scheduling data;  
providing data cells for construction of the checksheet;  
associating each data cell of the checksheet with a respective type of maintenance data;  
identifying an out of specification tolerance for the maintenance data parameter;  
identifying at least one responsible person for notification of maintenance data exceeding out of specification tolerance; and  
storing the equipment data, the scheduling data, the checksheet, and the at least one responsible person in the database.

13. A method according to claim 12, further comprising identifying a second out of specification tolerance for the same maintenance data parameter, each out of specification tolerance being identified according to a respective level of criticality.

14. A method according to claim 13, further comprising identifying at least one responsible person for notification of maintenance data exceeding the second out of specification tolerance.

15. A system for assigning and reporting a plurality of preventative maintenance workorders, a workorder including equipment data, scheduling data, and a checksheet associated with a required maintenance procedure, the system comprising:

a central computer;  
a database in communication with said central computer for storing preventative maintenance workorders;  
a supervisor interface including a first electronic mailbox adapted to view the preventative maintenance workorders, assign the preventative maintenance workorders to at least one technician, and release the workorder to the at least one technician;

a technician interface including a second electronic mailbox adapted to view a released workorder assigned to the respective technician, complete the checksheet by inserting maintenance data to the checksheet, and store the completed checksheet in the database; and

a computer network interconnecting the central computer, the technician interface, and the supervisor interface.

16. A system according to claim 15, wherein the supervisor interface and technician interface each comprise a respective computer device including a display device and an input device.

17. A system according to claim 16, wherein first and second electronic mailboxes are only accessible by entry of respective login identification codes.

18. A system according to claim 17, wherein the computer network is selected from the group consisting of a local area network, wide area network or intranet.

19. A system according to claim 18, wherein the computer devices are adapted to access the first and second electronic mailboxes via an HTML browser.

20. A system according to claim 19, wherein the technician interface comprises a portable handheld computer device adapted to download a copy of the checksheet, complete the checksheet copy, and upload the completed checksheet copy to store the checksheet in the database.

21. A system according to claim 20, wherein the portable handheld computer comprises a wireless computing device capable of communicating with the computer network via a wireless communication connection.

22. A system according to claim 20, wherein the central computer is adapted to prohibit access to the checksheet in the database after the copy of the checksheet is downloaded and before the completed checksheet is uploaded and stored to the database.

23. A system according to claim 18, wherein the central computer is adapted to automatically route the completed checksheet to the first electronic mailbox of the supervisor interface.

24. A system according to claim 23, wherein the central computer is adapted to automatically route maintenance data exceeding an out of specification tolerance to designated personnel.

25. A system according to claim 24, wherein the central computer is adapted to automatically route the maintenance data exceeding the out of specification tolerance to personnel according to a predetermined criticality of the out of specification parameter.

26. A system according to claim 18, wherein the electronic mailbox of the supervisor interface is adapted to provide an icon corresponding to a workorder and to provide a graphic calendar such that the icon is positionable over a date on the calendar for scheduling maintenance activities in accordance with the workorder on that date.

27. A system according to claim 18, wherein the electronic mailbox of the supervisor interface is adapted to provide a checkbox corresponding to each of the plurality of workorders and a plurality of checkboxes are selectable in order to assign all of the selected workorders to at least one person.